

Pitzer Ranch, Barn
100 Feet West of Padua Avenue on Base Line Road
City of Claremont
Los Angeles County
California

HABS No. CA-2267-I

HABS
CAL,
19-CLAMO,
1-I-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service, Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94102

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HISTORIC MEXICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

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STATE California	COUNTY Los Angeles	TOWN OR VICINITY City of Claremont
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Pitzer Ranch, Barn		HABS NO. CA-2267-I
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Becket-Pitzer Barn		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) South side of the 900 block of Base Line Road. Approximately 100 feet west of the intersection of Base Line Road and Padua Avenue in the City of Claremont, Los Angeles County, California.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Circa 1900.	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Not known.	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Refer to Supplemental Page.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Mission-influenced		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Foundation: Concrete, dirt, and native fieldstone Walls: Native fieldstone Roof: corrugated metal		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Refer to Barn Floor Plan.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Refer to Supplemental Page.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Refer to Barn Floor Plan.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The corrugated metal and fieldstone vertical open-side shed may be a historic addition to the fieldstone barn.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Fair to good. Not presently in use.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE HABS recordation of the Pitzer Ranch Complex was a mitigation measure for the Base Line Road/Padua Avenue Environmental Assessment to allow for the widening and improvement of Padua Avenue.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Refer to Narrative Report.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Dana C. Privitt, Sanchez Talarico Associates, Inc.		DATE August 17, 1987

PITZER RANCH, BARN

SIGNIFICANCE

The Pitzer Barn is part of the Pitzer Ranch Complex consisting of the main house, pumphouse, shed, water tower, concrete reservoir, and secondary house on Padua Avenue and the Pitzer House, stone garage, and stone wall on Towne Avenue. The original owner of the land and structures was James Becket. Becket owned most of the water rights in the area (The Consolidated Water Company) and orchards throughout the area.

Lee Pitzer married James Becket's daughter on January 1, 1901 and subsequently took ownership of the property and structures of the Pitzer Ranch Complex on Padua Avenue in approximately 1910. Lee Pitzer expanded the development of citrus orchards in the area. Pitzer was the first to grow lemons along Base Line Road. Lee Pitzer was the brother of Russell Pitzer, founder of Pitzer College in Claremont, California.

The probable historic use of the barn was for the storage of citrus, farm implements, and equipment. The four walls of the primary barn structure are of uncut native fieldstone, a common building material in the area.

Fieldstone was an available building material as it often washed down into the lower elevations from the surrounding mountainous region. It was necessary to clear the fields of fieldstone in order to cultivate crops. Construction of structures with fieldstone required more and higher skilled laborers.

The fieldstone barn is significant due to its historical ties to the Pitzer and Becket families, its use in the establishment and growth of the citrus industry, and its architectural simplicity and beauty.

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE

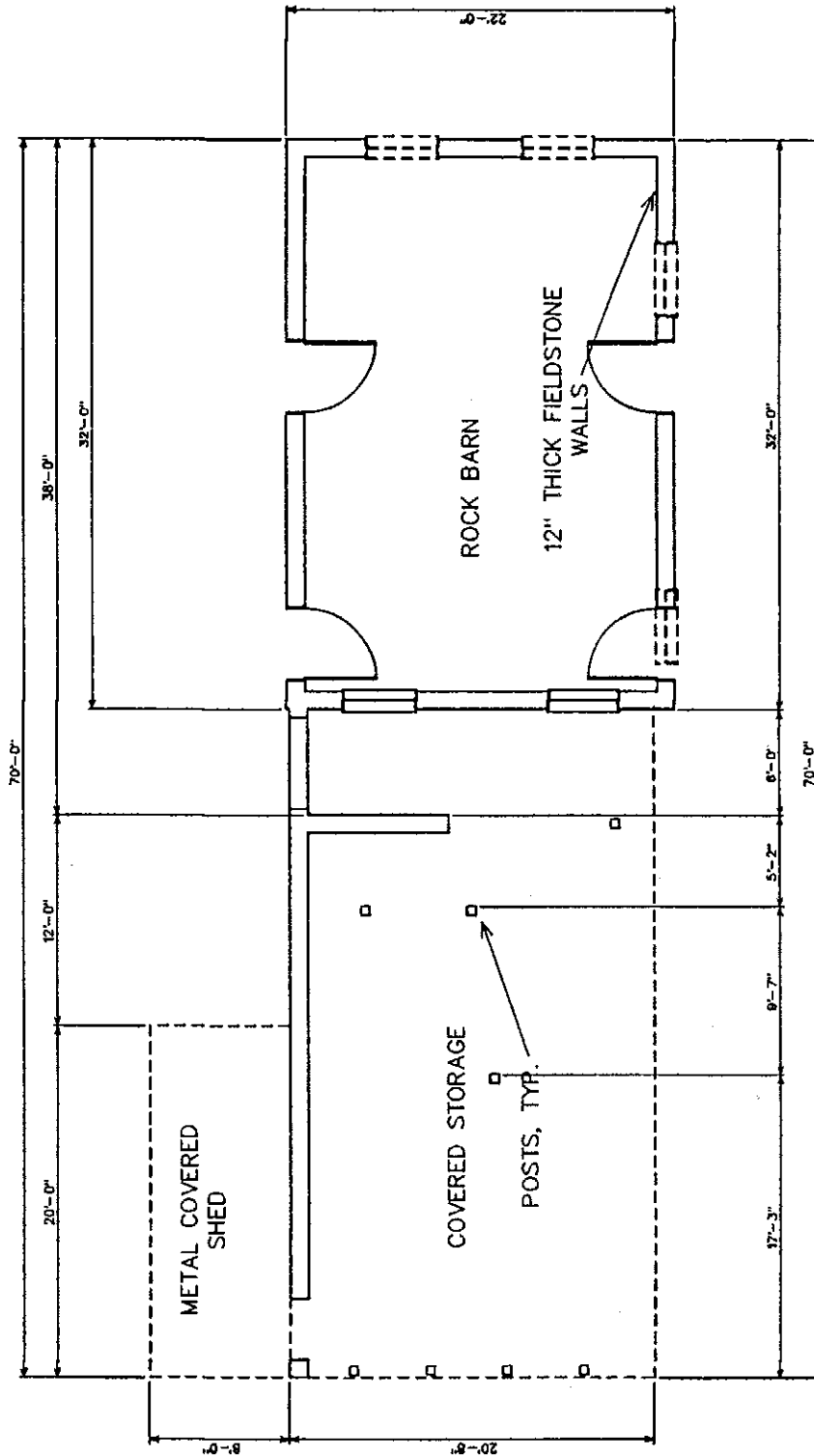
The barn structure is constructed of uncut fieldstone, mortar, wood, and corrugated metal. The structure is 1-1/2 stories and is T-shaped. The walls of the barn are of uncut fieldstone. The gable ends reflect simple Mission-influenced architecture. The south gable end has a wooden belt course at the roofline. The eve walls are plain, constructed of fieldstone with openings for doors. The roof of the barn is a medium-to-high pitch gable roof of rusted corrugated metal.

Window openings are located on the north, south, and west facades. These openings have decorative fieldstone architrave trim and are located slightly below the roofline. There are no glass paned windows, only swinging wood window covers. The door openings are placed at the gable ends of the barn. The openings are symmetrically placed so that one can

look through the door opening at one end, through the barn, and out the other gable end. There are two door openings at each gable end. One door is situated slightly off-center. The other door is tightly set to the east edge of the gable ends.

The T-extension to the fieldstone barn is constructed of uncut native fieldstone, mortar, corrugated metal, and wood. The southern wall is constructed of fieldstone. The western wall is the main barn fieldstone wall. The structure was designed without a solid northern wall to facilitate movement in and out of the structure. The original siding on the eastern wall is gone. Only wooden structural members remain.

The roof is medium pitched and constructed of corrugated metal which has rusted through the years. The southern wall has a door opening along the eastern edge. Wooden supports allow for a loft area and separate the structure into separate areas for car stalls, wagon stalls, and/or farm equipment.



Source: Sanchez Talarico Associates, Inc.

BECKET-PITZER BARN FLOOR PLAN

PITZER RANCH COMPLEX
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
City of Claremont

sanchez talarico
associates

